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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Jeffrey Van Ness et al.

Application No.

10/000,467

Filed

October 24, 2001

For

METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR ENHANCING

SENSITIVITY IN THE ANALYSIS OF BIOLOGICAL-BASED

ASSAYS

Art Unit

1656

Docket No.

780068.418C3

Date

June 25, 2002

Box Missing Parts Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 2327 Arlington, VA 22202

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents:

In response to the Notice to File Missing Parts dated January 25, 2002, please extend the period of time for response three months, to expire on June 25, 2002. Enclosed are a Petition for an Extension of Time and the requisite fee. Please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please add, beginning at page 1 line 5, before the TECHNICAL FIELD section the following new paragraph: